

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A paper machine for manufacturing a fiber web, the fiber web traveling in a machine direction and having a tail, said paper machine comprising:

at least one rope defining a rope nip;

a threading arm assembly positioned in association with said rope nip, said threading arm

5 including:

a frame; and

a diverter carried by said frame, said diverter movable to divert the tail in a direction transverse to said machine direction toward said rope nip.

2. The paper machine of claim 1, wherein said threading arm assembly includes an elongate member carried by and longitudinally movable relative to said frame, said diverter being coupled with said elongate member at an end thereof.

3. The paper machine of claim 2, wherein said elongate member comprises a cylindrical tube which is also rotatable relative to said frame.

4. The paper machine of claim 3, wherein said diverter includes a plurality of air discharge holes facing generally toward said frame, said tube being connected by a fluid line with said diverter.

5. The paper machine of claim 4, wherein said diverter has a generally C-shaped cross section.

6. The paper machine of claim 4, wherein said threading arm assembly includes an air assist tube with a plurality of air discharge holes facing generally parallel to said machine direction.

7. The paper machine of claim 6, wherein said threading arm assembly carries the tail between said cylindrical tube and said air assist tube.

8. The paper machine of claim 1, wherein said frame includes a mounting, and wherein said diverter comprises a pivot arm carried by and pivotally movable relative to said frame, said pivot arm being pivotally movable generally toward said mounting for diverting the fiber web tail generally toward said mounting.

9. The paper machine of claim 8, further including a pneumatic actuator coupled with said pivot arm for pivoting said pivot arm.

10. The paper machine of claim 8, further including a pivot linkage pivotally coupled with said frame, said pivot arm being removably attached to said pivot linkage.

11. A threading arm assembly for threading a fiber web tail, comprising:
a frame having a mounting;
a diverter carried by said frame, said diverter movable generally toward said mounting for diverting the fiber web tail generally toward said mounting.

12. The threading arm of claim 11, wherein said threading arm assembly includes an elongate member carried by and longitudinally movable relative to said frame, said diverter being coupled with said elongate member at an end thereof.

13. The threading arm of claim 12, wherein said elongate member comprises a cylindrical tube which is also rotatable relative to said frame.

14. The threading arm of claim 13, wherein said diverter includes a plurality of air discharge holes facing generally toward said frame, said tube being connected by a fluid line with said diverter.

15. The threading arm of claim 14, wherein said diverter has a generally C-shaped cross section.

16. The threading arm of claim 14, wherein said threading arm assembly includes an air assist tube with a plurality of air discharge holes facing generally parallel to said machine direction.

17. The threading arm of claim 16, wherein said threading arm assembly carries the tail between said cylindrical tube and said air assist tube.

18. The threading arm of claim 11, wherein said diverter comprises a pivot arm carried by and pivotally movable relative to said frame, said pivot arm being pivotally movable generally toward said mounting.

19. The threading arm of claim 18, further including a pneumatic actuator coupled with said pivot arm for pivoting said pivot arm.

20. The threading arm of claim 18, further including a pivot linkage pivotally coupled with said frame, said pivot arm being removably attached to said pivot linkage.

21. A method of threading a fiber web tail movable in a machine direction, comprising the steps of:

positioning a threading arm assembly in association with a rope nip, said threading arm assembly including a frame and a diverter carried by and movable relative to said frame;

5 diverting the tail using said threading arm assembly in a direction transverse to the machine direction toward said rope nip; and

threading the diverted fiber web tail into said rope nip.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein said diverter includes a plurality of air holes, and said diverting step is carried out using air from said air holes.

23. The method of claim 21, wherein said diverter comprises a pivot arm pivotally coupled with said frame, and said diverting step is carried out by pivoting said diverter.